

DocsTeach – An Online Tool for Teaching with National Archives Documents



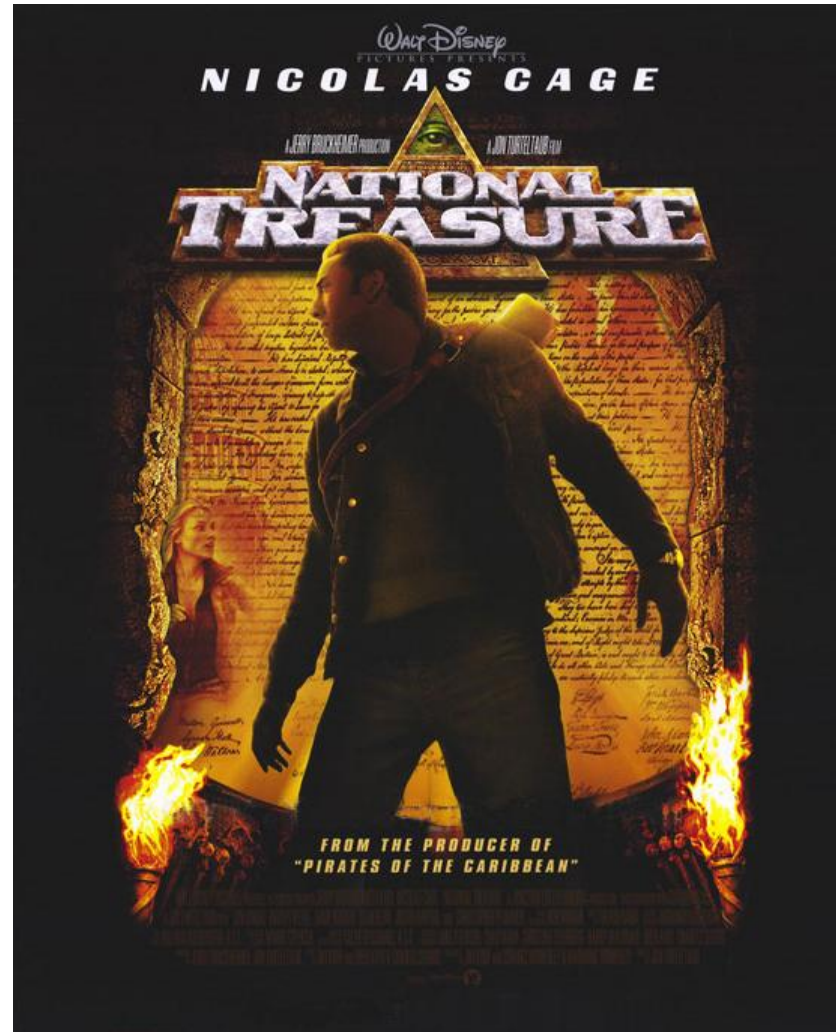
NATIONAL
ARCHIVES



Today's Objectives:

- Understand the holdings of the National Archives through a basic introduction
- Understand the educational resources of the National Archives in particular **DocsTeach**

What is the National Archives & Records Administration?





What is the National Archives & Records Administration?





What is the National Archives & Records Administration?

Teaching With Documents - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES ARCHIVES.GOV

Educators and Students

Educators and Students Teaching With Documents

LESSONS BY ERA

- 1754-1820s
- 1801-1861
- 1850-1877
- 1870-1900
- 1890-1930
- 1929-1945
- 1945 to 1970s
- 1968 to Present
- Worksheets

Go to the Teaching With Documents Main Page

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Teaching With Documents: Lesson Plans

This section contains reproducible copies of primary documents from the holdings of the National Archives of the United States, teaching activities correlated to the [National History Standards](#) and [National Standards for Civics and Government](#), and cross-curricular connections.

Teaching with primary documents encourages a varied learning environment for teachers and students alike. Lectures, demonstrations, analysis of documents, independent research, and group work become a gateway for research with historical records in ways that sharpen students' skills and enthusiasm for history, social studies, and the humanities.

Analysis Worksheets

- Written Document
- Artifact
- Cartoon
- Map
- Motion Picture
- Photograph
- Poster
- Sound Recording

- [Revolution and the New Nation \(1754-1820s\)](#)
- [Expansion and Reform \(1801-1868\)](#)
- [Civil War and Reconstruction \(1850-1877\)](#)
- [The Development of the Industrial United States \(1870-1900\)](#)
- [The Emergence of Modern America \(1890-1930\)](#)
- [The Great Depression and World War II \(1929-1945\)](#)
- [Postwar United States \(1945 to early 1970s\)](#)
- [Contemporary United States \(1968 to the present\)](#)

PDF files require the [free Adobe Reader](#).
More information on Adobe Acrobat PDF files is available on our [Accessibility page](#).

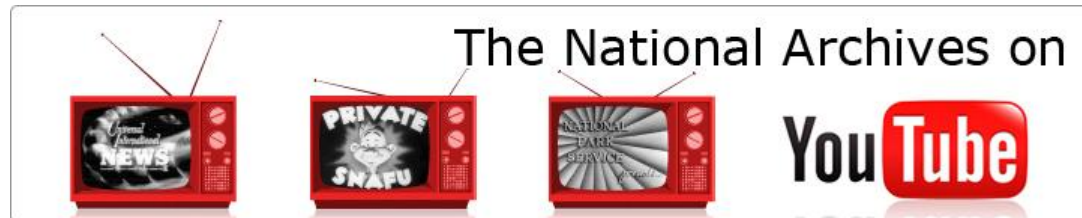
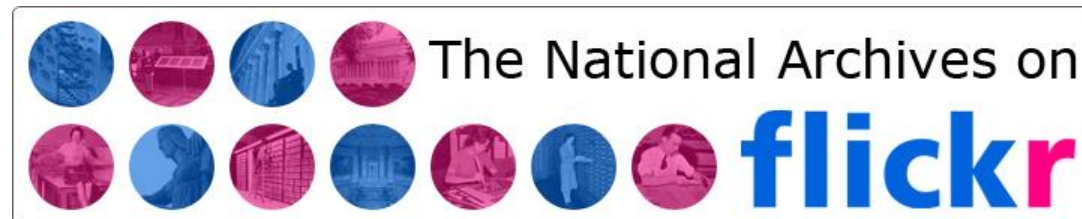
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The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-8001
Telephone: 1-866-NARA-NARA or 1-866-272-6272

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES EXPERIENCE ourdocuments REGULATIONS.gov USA.gov



What is the National Archives & Records Administration?





What is the National Archives & Records Administration?

- As the **nation's record keeper**, NARA collects, protects and makes available records created by the Federal government.
 - Our records document:
 - The Rights of American Citizens*
 - The Actions of Federal Officials*
 - The National Experience*
- and allow us to hold our government accountable for its actions.
- Our 23 billion records are housed across the nation in over 30 facilities, including presidential libraries.





What is the National Archives & Records Administration?

So, what can actually be found in these billions of federal records?



Every one of the 23 billion or so documents in the holdings of the National Archives can be a teaching tool. . . A Letter about Elvis Being Drafted; The First Mad Magazine; A Telegram Announcing the Fall of Ft. Sumter; The Canceled Check for the Purchase of Alaska; The 1964 Civil Rights Act. . .

Box 75
Noxon

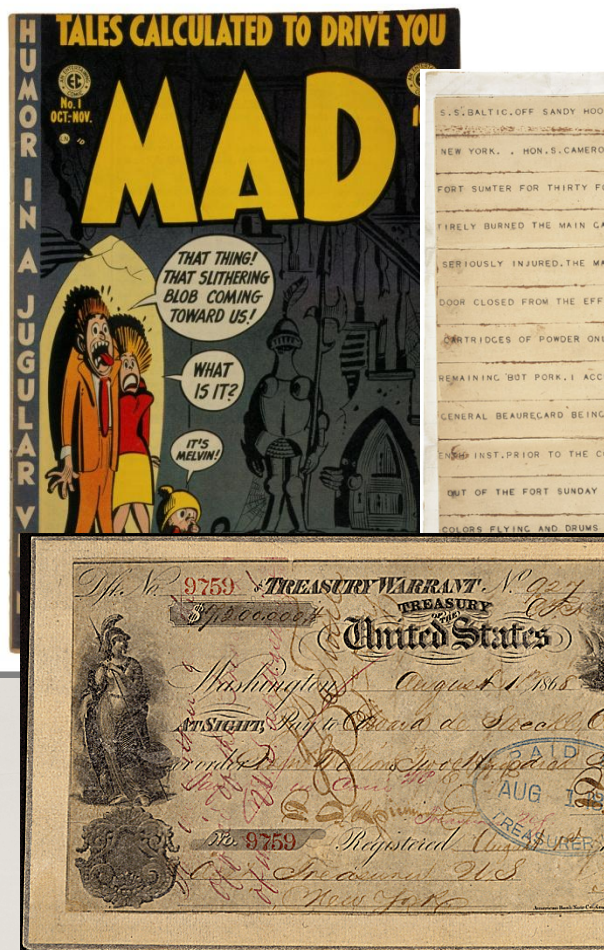
Dear President Eisenhower,
My girlfriend and I are writing
all the way from Montana. We find
it's bad enough to send Elvis
in the Army, but if you cut his
side burn off we will just tell
you don't know we fell about
I really don't see why you have
send him in the Army at all,
beg you please please don't
him a l. d. hair cut, ok please
please don't! if you do we will
just about die!

Prestley
Presley
IS OUR CRY
P-R-E-S-L-E-Y

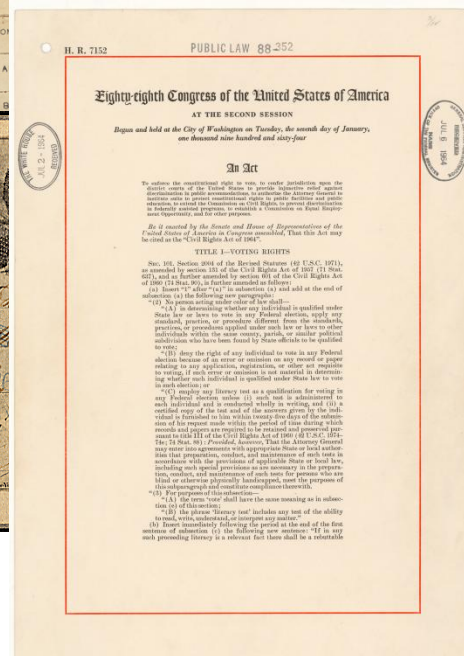
Chris Presley
Louise

Linda Kelly
Sherry Bate
Nicki Mattson

Chris Presley



S.S. BALTIC, OFF SANDY HOOK APR. EIGHTEENTH, TEN THIRTY A.M. VIA
NEW YORK. . . HON. S. CAMERON, SECY. WAR. WASHN. HAVING DEFENDED
FORT SUMTER FOR THIRTY FOUR HOURS, UNTIL THE QUARTERS WERE EN
FIRED BURNED THE MAIN GATES DESTROYED BY FIRE, THE GORGE WALLS
SERIOUSLY INJURED. THE MAGAZINE SURROUNDED BY FLAMES AND ITS
DOOR CLOSED FROM THE EFFECTS OF HEAT, FOUR BARRELS AND THREE
CARTRIDGES OF POWDER ONLY BEING AVAILABLE AND NO PROVISIONS
REMAINING, BUT PORK, I ACCEPTED TERMS OF EVACUATION OFFERED BY
GENERAL BEAUREGARD BEING ON SAME OFFERED BY HIM ON THE ELEV





How does the National Archives at Chicago fit into this?

We have:

Federal agency records, including records of the Federal courts, created in the six Great Lakes states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

- **Approximately 102,000 cubic feet**
- **Dating from 1800 to 1990s**
- **A variety of formats including paper records, maps, photos, and 3D artifacts**



“federal records created at the local level”



The National Archives at Chicago - in a snapshot

22852

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
IN AND FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS,
EASTERN DIVISION.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

vs.

ALPHONSE CAPONE, alias
ALPHONSE BROWN, alias
AL CAPONE, alias
AL BROWN, alias
"SCARFACE" BROWN, alias
"SCARFACE" CAPONE, alias
A. COSTE
Defendant.

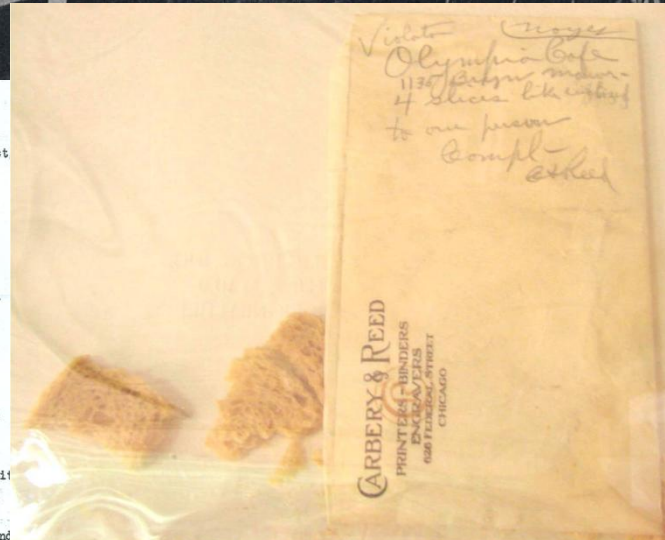
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS,
EASTERN DIVISION.

ss.

Of the March Term
In the Year 1931.
Held at Chicago, Illinois.

The Grand Jurors of the United States of America duly empaneled
and sworn in the District Court of the United States for the Eastern
Division of the Northern District of Illinois, at the March term of
said Court in the year 1931 and inquiring for said Division and District
upon their oath do present and charge that

ALPHONSE CAPONE, alias ALPHONSE BROWN, alias
AL CAPONE, alias AL BROWN, alias "SCARFACE"
BROWN, alias "SCARFACE" CAPONE, alias A. COSTE,
whose full and true name, other than as herein stated, is to the Grand
Jurors unknown, late of the City of Chicago, State of Illinois, herein-
after in this indictment sometimes called the defendant, on, to wit,
the fifteenth day of March, 1925, within the Eastern Division of the
Northern District of Illinois, and within the First Internal Revenue
Collection District of the United States for the State of Illinois, and
within the jurisdiction of this Court, unlawfully did then and there
willfully attempt to evade and defeat an income tax in the sum of, to wit,
\$32,489.24, imposed by an Act of Congress approved June 2, 1924, and
entitled "An Act To reduce and equalize taxation, to provide revenue, and



SUBJECT: INDEXED. COPIED.

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,
1637 Indiana Avenue, P.O. Drawer 182.
CHICAGO, ILL., August 22, 1939.

Hon. L. F. McManis,
Commissioner of Public Works
Chicago, Ill.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of August 20, 1939, ending with the remark, "Any plan that you have to offer consistent with the health and best interests of the City will receive the careful consideration of the City Government &c., &c."

Surely the Commissioner of Public Works will see that I can not again prepare anything looking to an agreement with the City Officials when agreements with the War Department have nearly uniformly been held as nothing by them.

I have only to say, without in any sense desiring to be offensive by the statement of plain facts:

1st. The matter of dumping grounds, and dumping in navigable waters, is placed by Congress entirely in the hands of the Secretary of War, and

Educational Resources of the National Archives at Chicago



- Educator Professional Development Workshops and In-service days (at our facility and in schools)

- Curriculum materials created and distributed through national resources (online and in print)

- Monthly E-Newsletter

- Research Opportunities and Assistance for Students, including Chicago Metro History Fair participants

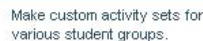




Where do you start?

Eager to receive information on these resources?

**Add your name to our mailing list through the
sign-up sheet!**





With Docs Teach you can:

BRING HISTORY TO LIFE FOR YOUR STUDENTS

with interactive activities that utilize primary sources & historical thinking tools.

Specifically:

- 1) Classroom “ready-to-roll” activities
- 2) Thousands of primary sources selected from the National Archives holdings
- 3) Opportunity to create new activities and adapt online versions
- 4) Save activities and documents in your own account



Ready-to-use activities are based on 1 of 7 tools.

****each designed to teach one or more historical thinking skills****

Finding a Sequence

Present primary sources and challenge students to sequence them based on document analysis

Focusing on Details

Showcase an intriguing document or pair of documents to prompt students to think critically about primary source documents

Interpreting Data

Pose questions for students to solve through analyzing historical data

Making Connections

Present primary sources as a string of documents and help students make connections among those documents and the historical events they illustrate

Mapping History

Link primary sources to locations on a map and practice spatial thinking and understand the impact of geographic factors in history

Seeing the Big Picture

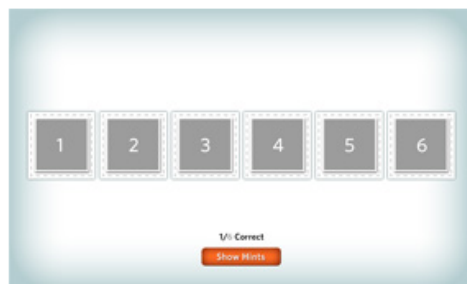
Pair documents concerning a historical event, concept, or figure with descriptions, questions, or other documents to impress upon students that the whole is derived from smaller parts.

Weighing the Evidence

Turn primary sources into historical evidence that students sort through and evaluate to draw historical conclusions.



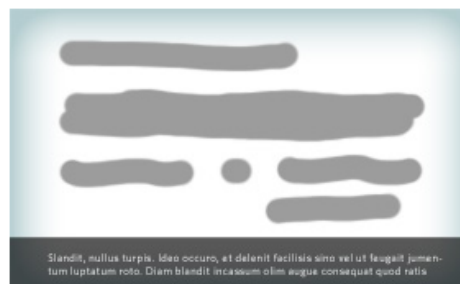
National Archives - DocsTeach – <http://docsteach.org>



Finding a Sequence

Present primary sources and challenge students to sequence them based on careful document analysis.... [more](#)

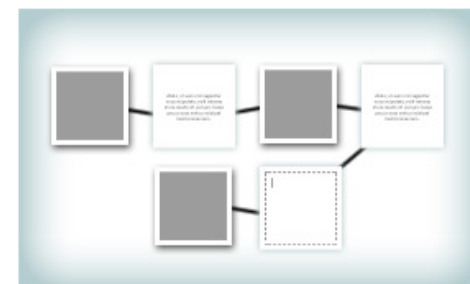
Create an Activity +



Focusing on Details

Showcase an intriguing document or a pair of documents with tools to guide student thinking and spark classroom conversations.... [more](#)

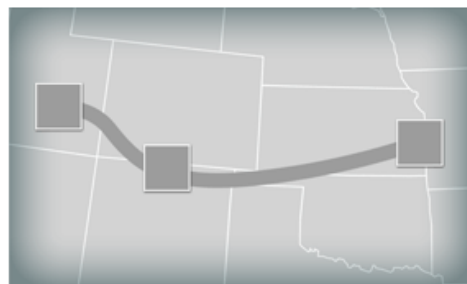
Create an Activity +



Making Connections

Present primary sources as a string of documents and help students make connections among those documents and the historical events they illustrate.... [more](#)

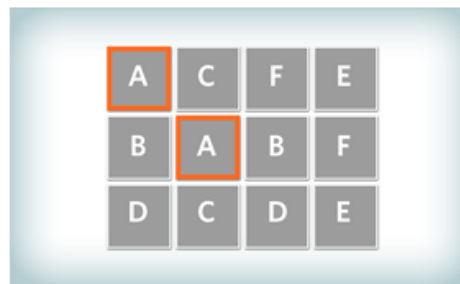
Create an Activity +



Mapping History

Link primary sources to locations on a map to practice spatial thinking and understand the impact of geographic factors in history.... [more](#)

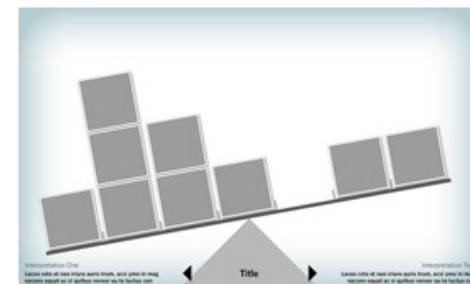
Create an Activity +



Seeing the Big Picture

Pair documents concerning an event, concept, or figure with descriptions, questions, or other documents to show that the whole is derived from smaller parts.... [more](#)

Create an Activity +



Weighing the Evidence

Turn primary sources into historical evidence that students sort through and evaluate to draw historical conclusions.... [more](#)

Create an Activity +





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Start Activity ^

National Archives Education Team, Washington, DC

Focusing on Details: Compare and Contrast

Civil War and Reconstruction (1850-1877)

Historical Analysis & Interpretation



Use to Create an Activity+

Print this activity 

Students will compare and contrast military recruitment posters to analyze various perspectives regarding the role of African Americans during the Civil War.

Teacher's Instructions

Objectives

Students will compare and contrast two military recruitment posters, determine the purpose of each one and analyze how the use of language conveys the intended message. Use this activity when studying the different perspectives on the recruitment of African Americans and the institution of slavery during a unit on the Civil War. For grades 7-12. Refer to the [background essay](#) on African American soldiers in the Civil War for more detailed information and documents related to recruitment.



National Archives - DocsTeach – <http://docsteach.org>

≡ Browse | 🔍 Search | ✎ Create

Find & use activities

crafted by educators using documents from the National Archives.

Use the search field above to find an activity by keyword.

Turn your students into historians with primary-source based activities that develop historical thinking skills. Activities are ready to use in your classroom. Or alter an existing activity to fit your unique needs. Exchange primary source documents and modify activity instructions. Log in to borrow from an even larger selection from fellow educators.



Registered users can **bookmark activities** by starring them. Share your starred activities with your students via DocsTeach classrooms in your account.

Historical Eras

Activities created on DocsTeach are categorized according to the National History Standards. [Learn more about standards.](#)

Create activities

Use a creation tool to make your own interactive activity.

Create an Activity



activities

(1754-1820s)
Revolution and the New Nation



activities

(1801-1861)
Expansion and Reform



activities

(1850-1877)
Civil War and Reconstruction



activities

(1870-1900)
The Development of the Industrial United States



activities

(1890-1930)
The Emergence of Modern America



(1929-1945)
The Great Depression



(1945 to early 1970s)
Postwar Reconstruction



(1968 to the present)
Contemporary America



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Ms. Duncan
[view detail](#)



Ms. Duncan
[view detail](#)



Ms. Duncan
[view detail](#)



★
Focusing on Details:
Zoom/Crop
**Examining the Daily
Routines of ...**
Ms. Duncan
[view detail](#)



★
Making Connections
Civil War Leaders
Ms. Haskins
[view detail](#)



★
Finding a Sequence
**Exploring Harriet
Tubman's ...**
Nasrin Samadi
[view detail](#)



★
Focusing on Details:
Compare and Contrast
**Slavery-Related
Amendments**
National Archives
Education Staff -
Michael
[view detail](#)



★
Focusing on Details:
Zoom/Crop
Close-Up
National Archives
Education Staff -
Michael
[view detail](#)



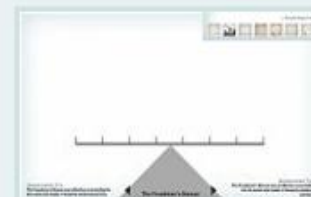
★
Making Connections
**The Road to
Abolition**
National Archives
Education Staff -
Michael
[view detail](#)



★
Focusing on Details:
Compare and Contrast
**Comparing Civil War
Recruitment ...**
National Archives
Education Team,
Washington, DC
[view detail](#)



★
Focusing on Details:
Spotlight
**Justifying the
Suspension of ...**
National Archives
Education Team,
Washington, DC
[view detail](#)



★
Weighing the Evidence
**How Effective were
the Efforts ...**
National Archives
Education Team,
Washington, DC
[view detail](#)

« < 1 2 3 4 5 » »



National Archives - DocsTeach – <http://docsteach.org>

<http://docsteach.org/activities/28>

How Effective were the Efforts of the Freedmen's Bureau? | DocsTeach: Activities - Windows Internet Explorer

<http://docsteach.org/activities/28>

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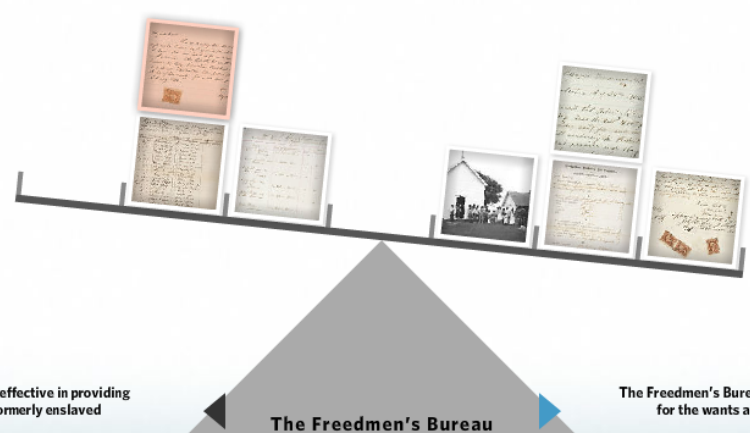
Google Search Share Sidewiki Check Translate AutoFill Sign In

Favorites Suggested Sites

Activities | DocsTeach

How Effective were the Efforts of the Freedmen's Bureau?

? Introduction **I'm Done**



Interpretation One
The Freedmen's Bureau was effective in providing for the wants and needs of formerly enslaved persons.

Interpretation Two
The Freedmen's Bureau was ineffective in providing for the wants and needs of formerly enslaved persons.

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ACTIVITIES | DOCUMENTS

Want to create custom activities for the classroom?
Share your activities with students by using DocsTeach Classrooms?
Use lessons that other educators have created?
Explore, bookmark, and share primary sources from the National Archives?

Registration is quick and easy!

Choose a user name

Choose a password

Enter your email address

Enter your password again


Register

Registered users can save activities in an account or publish their activities to be used in DocsTeach Classrooms. Published activities are available to all logged-in users of the site. Authors of excellent examples may be contacted and their activities could become featured and available to the general public. Published activities without unique titles or author names may be unpublished but will remain saved in the user's account.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES EXPERIENCE DOCS TEACH

RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

[Document Analysis](#) | [Why Teach with Documents?](#) | [Bloom's Taxonomy](#) | [Sharing Activities](#)
[National History Standards](#) | [Teaching with Documents and NCSS](#) | [Additional Links](#)

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[Rockford TAH](#)
[U-46 TAH](#)

New Classroom

Maximum 35 characters

[+ Add Classroom](#)

Results 1–6 of 6

Title	Type	Updated	Published?	
Edited version of Freedmen's Bureau	Weighing the Evidence	09/15/2011	no	Edit/Delete
Soup Kitchen - Al Capone	Focusing on Details: White out/Black out	09/15/2011	no	Edit/Delete
The First Amendment	Seeing the Big Picture	07/09/2011	yes	Edit/Delete
The Meal	Focusing on Details: Discussion Topic	03/29/2011	no	Edit/Delete
Pearl Harbor - Sample	Finding a Sequence	03/29/2011	no	Edit/Delete
U46 Introduction	Focusing on Details: White out/Black out	03/09/2011	no	Edit/Delete



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ACTIVITIES | **DOCUMENTS** | ACCOUNT

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Choose from **thousands**
of primary sources for use
in classroom activities.

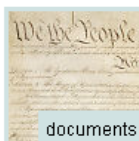
We have selected thousands of primary source documents to bring the past to life as classroom teaching tools from the billions preserved at the National Archives. Use the search field above to find written documents, images, maps, charts, graphs, audio and video in our ever-expanding collection that spans the course of American history.



Registered users can **bookmark documents by starring them.**

Historical Eras

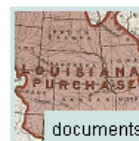
Documents are categorized according to the National History Standards. [Learn more about standards.](#)



documents

(1754-1820s)

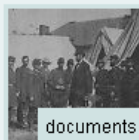
**Revolution and the
New Nation**



documents

(1801-1861)

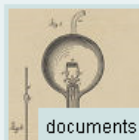
**Expansion and
Reform**



documents

(1850-1877)

**Civil War and
Reconstruction**



documents

(1870-1900)

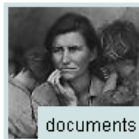
**The Development
of the Industrial
United States**



documents

(1890-1930)

**The Emergence
of Modern
America**



documents

(1929-1945)

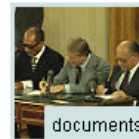
**The Great
Depression and
World War II**



documents

(1945 to early 1970s)

**Postwar United
States**



documents

(1968 to the present)

**Contemporary
United States**




National Archives - *DocsTeach* – <http://docsteach.org>


<http://docsteach.org>




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 **THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES**
AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION








  

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 How to Create a Focusing on Details usnationalarchives 30 views	 How to Create a Making Connections usnationalarchives 36 views	 How to Create a Mapping History usnationalarchives 57 views	 How to Create a Seeing the Big usnationalarchives 48 views	 How to Create a Weighing the usnationalarchives 25 views	 How to Create an Interpreting Data usnationalarchives 32 views
 How to Modify Activities on usnationalarchives 2:53	 How to Create and Use DocsTeach usnationalarchives 1:50				

<http://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives#grid/user/96883AFF763C6D40>

National Archives at Chicago

After Today

Questions, concerns, eager to brainstorm ideas for your classroom . . .

Kris Maldre, Education Specialist

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e-mail: kristina.maldre@nara.gov